



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/810,979

Confirmation No.: 9629

Applicants: Bonaventura et al.

Customer No.: 24041

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For: SHIELDED-ERGONOMIC MICROSCOPE STAGES

TC/Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: Lavarias, Arnel C.

Docket No.: LEAP:133US

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I certify that this correspondence is being deposited on September 26, 2006 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Sir:

This is a reply to the Office Action dated August 1, 2006 regarding the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Currently, Claims 2, 5-7, 17, 19, 22, 23 and 26-34 have been withdrawn from consideration and Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-16, 20, 21, 24 and 25 have been rejected.

The **Current Status of the Claims** is reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appendix begins after page 13 of this paper.